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AMSAT NEWS SERVICE
ANS-132

The AMSAT News Service bulletins are a free, weekly news and information service of AMSAT North America, The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. ANS publishes news related to Amateur Radio in space including reports on the activities of a worldwide group of Amateur Radio operators who share an active interest in designing, building, launching and communicating through analog and digital Amateur Radio satellites.

The news feed on http://amsat.org publishes news of Amateur Radio in space as soon as our volunteers can post it.

Please send any amateur satellite news or reports to:
ans-editor at amsat dot org.

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-132.01
ANS-132 AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 132.01
>From AMSAT HQ KENSINGTON, MD.
May 12, 2019
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-132.01

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1pm to meet board members, officers, and active satellite operators. You'll be able to ask questions and see demonstrations of AMSAT's current and upcoming technologies.

Additionally, there will be a special "OSCAR Park" display to commemorate AMSAT's 50th Anniversary.

And don't miss the opportunity to renew your membership and purchase special AMSAT 50th Anniversary t-shirts, golf shirts, and hats.

Amateur Satellite Demonstrations
Outside Main Entrance – Maxim Hall (Building 1)
Friday, Saturday, Sunday 16 – 19 May 2019, 08:00 – 16:30 EDT

Amateur Satellite operation demonstrations will be held outside the main Maxim Hall (Building 1 or E1) entrance. Every day, AMSAT will be demonstrating actual contacts with the operational amateur satellites. We especially want to invite youth to make a contact via an amateur satellite. All are invited to observe, participate and ask questions. Satellite pass times will be posted at the AMSAT booth (1007-1010 & 1107-1110) and in the demo area.

ARISS Forum
Forum Room 3
Friday, 17 May 2019, 13:15 – 14:15 EDT

Out of this World Ham Radio via ARISS–Amateur Radio on the ISS
Moderators: Rosalie White, K1STO, ARISS Secretary & USA Delegate, Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, AMSAT Vice President Human Space Flight

ARISS is one of the most unique and fun facets of our hobby. We inspire generations of students and hams through our International Space Station crew and radio connections. In this eye-opening forum, learn about current and future lifelong learning opportunities for hams–via SSTV, APRS, voice repeaters, radio experiments and even robots! Hear how ARISS inspires, engages and educates tens of thousands of students each year in STEAM (science, technology, engineering arts and math) and radio science. See the next generation hardware systems we have in development. Discover how to maximize your opportunities to make ARISS connections and to hear the ISS crew directly from your ham shack. And learn about our visionary initiative to fly ham radio on the human space flight lunar Gateway. Come meet the team that have enabled millions, worldwide, to experience the fun of our amateur radio hobby.

The ARISS team will present an overview and status of the program and then conduct a panel/Q&A session with ARISS panel experts in operations, education, hardware, experimentation and exploration. We also hope to have some surprise guests attending!

AMSAT Forum
Forum Room 2
Saturday, 18 May 2019, 12:10 – 13:40 EDT

Moderated by Robert Bankston KE4AL, AMSAT Vice President–User Services

AMSAT Status Report – Joseph Spier, K6WAO, AMSAT President, will highlight recent activities within AMSAT and discuss some of our challenges, accomplishments, projects, and any late breaking news.

AMSAT Engineering – Jerry Buxton, N0JY, AMSAT Vice President–Engineering, will talk about the Fox-1 and Golf (Greater Orbit, Larger Footprint) Projects.

AMSAT Education – Alan Johnston, KU2Y, AMSAT Vice President–
Educational Relations will introduce the AMSAT CubeSat Simulator.

AMSAT User Services – Robert Bankston, KE4AL, AMSAT Vice President–
User Services, will discuss AMSAT's 50th Anniversary Operating Event
and the new AMSAT Ambassadors Program.

AMSAT "Dinner at Tickets"
Tickets Pub & Eatery, Fairborn, OH
Thursday, 16 May 2019, 18:00 EDT

The annual AMSAT "Dinner at Tickets" party will be held Thursday
at 1800 EDT at Tickets Pub & Eatery at 7 W. Main St, Fairborn, OH.
Great selection of Greek and American food and great company! No
program or speaker, just good conversation. Food can be ordered from
the menu, drinks (beer, wine, sodas and iced tea) are available at the
bar. Leave room for dessert, there's an in-house ice cream shop! Come
as you are. Bring some friends and have a great time the night before
Hamvention.

[ANS thanks AMSAT for the above information.]

Tickets Still Available for TAPR/AMSAT Banquet

The twelfth annual TAPR/AMSAT Banquet will be held at the Kohler
Presidential Center on Friday at 18:30 EDT. This dinner is always a
highlight of the AMSAT (Radio Amateur Satellite Corp.) and TAPR
(Tucson Amateur Packet Radio) activities during the Dayton Hamvention.

Tickets ($40 each) may be purchased from the AMSAT store. The banquet
ticket purchase deadline is Tuesday, May 14th. Banquet tickets must be
purchased in advance and will not be sold at the AMSAT booth. There
will be no tickets to pick up at the AMSAT booth. Tickets purchased
on-line will be maintained on a list with check-in at the door at the
banquet center. Seating is limited to the number of meals reserved
with the Kohler caterers based on the number of tickets sold by the
deadline.

The after-dinner speaker will be Dr. P. J. Erickson, W1PJE from the
MIT Haystack Observatory, who will give a presentation entitled "New
Frontiers in Human Understanding of Geospace: Radio Explorations of
Near-Earth Space from Top to Bottom Through Joint Amateur – Scientist
Partnerships."

Link to purchase tickets:
https://www.amsat.org/product/tapramsat-joint-hamvention-banquet/

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY 18:00 EDT ON TUESDAY, MAY 14TH

[ANS thanks the AMSAT office for the above information.]

ARRL Releases Mobile App for the Dayton Hamvention

The ARRL has released a mobile app for Apple, Android, and Windows
devices to help users navigate this year's Dayton Hamvention®, host
of the 2019 ARRL National Convention. The app will let attendees use
their personal smart phone or tablet to navigate the extensive Hamven-
tion program, prize drawings, activities, and exhibits.

The ARRL has posted the details at:

https://tinyurl.com/ANS-132-ARRL

There is an introductory YouTube video at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=54NpMZWNl0g&feature=youtu.be

[ANS thanks the ARRL for the above information.]

Going to Hamvention? Please Stop By and Say Thank You to Kenwood and the ARRL for ARISS Donations

If you are going to Hamvention next week, please stop by the Kenwood and the American Radio Relay League booths and say thank you for both organizations very generous donations to the ARISS Inter-Operable Radio System (IORS).

The auction was completed at April 14th at 22:00 UTC. There were many bidders hoping to garner a special astronaut signed brand new JVC Kenwood TS-890S. There was similar bidding on a special astronaut signed 6-volume boxed set 2019 ARRL Handbook.

Thanks to JVC Kenwood and ARRL, proceeds from the on-line auction raised over $5400 to benefit ARISS in its quest to launch a new custom-built higher-power radio system in late 2019 with its voice repeater and improved packet APRS and SSTV capability that thousands of hams can enjoy. The new system will replace the aging, problematic units currently on the ISS. ARISS also needs funding to keep introducing ham radio to thousands of students, teachers, parents, and whole communities—and inspiring students about STEM and radio.

Kenwood has been a super supporter of ARISS for years, and it was the company’s idea for this special radio to be an exclusive for one ham to own. The limited edition boxed set 2019 ARRL Handbook sold out fast last fall but ARRL saved back one set for ARISS's fund-raiser. AMSAT provided parts of the auction infrastructure. ARISS and I are thankful for all of its great sponsors and supporters!

Don't forget to stop by the AMSAT and ARISS booths in Building 1. See you there!

[ANS thanks Joe Spier, K6WAO, AMSAT President for the above information.]

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and 20:30 UTC on Friday, May 17th and Saturday, May 18th and between 12:00 UTC and 16:00 UTC on Sunday, May 19th. Hamvention is located in the six digit gridsquare EM89aq.

As a reward for working the AMSAT demo station, individuals working us will receive a digital certificate upon request. Please email n8hm at amsat.org with your QSO details to receive a certificate.

If you are attending Hamvention, please stop by the demo station outside Building 1!

[ANS thanks Paul Stoetzer, N8HM, for the above information.]

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+ It was a Community Amateur Volunteer Project.
+ It was a useful project of co-operation world wide.
+ And it is not a big collision risk.

It is estimated between 23,000 and 29,000 bits of stuff larger than
10 cm and millions and millions of pieces smaller than 10 cm exist.

A very Queensland assessment of space junk weight was:
more than 8.4 million Cane Toads!

The Cane Toad Index is possibly quite appropriate as cane toads
are spreading out of control and effecting our Earthly environment,
not unlike unwanted space junk!

Keep an eye out in our journal AR Magazine for Peter, VK3RV's
very interesting read.

[ANS thanks VK1WIA News for May 9, 2019 for the above information.]

ARSATC 4th Birthday

ARSATC (Amateur Radio Satellite Community) is a group dedicated to
satellite amateur radio amateurs. We are a group focused on projects
and activities of satellite communication, linked to one of the
largest groups of DX in Brazil, CDR GROUP and also a project linked to
AMSAT-BR and partnerships with AMSAT-ID and AMSAT-NA. Your membership
in the group has no costs and is open to any amateur or person who has
an interest in participating in the activities developed.

ARSATC was founded on May 17, 2015 by amateurs:
• Gustavo Nicolau, PT9BM
• José Valdir de Lima, PW8PM
• Hermes S. Silveira, PQ2HX

ARSATC does not have its own headquarters, because it is a community
of amateurs spread all over the national and international territory,
as we have members from north to south of Brazil and even outside, we
did the programming together with the ARSTAC director team, where we
decided to distribute tasks to the members of the community.

In the southern region of Brazil (Curitiba), we will have our friend
and member Luciano (PY5LF), with SSTV broadcasts on the North American
satellite AO-91, which was granted to us on the weekends of May for
use of this purpose.

In the midwestern region (Paranaíba) Mato Grosso do Sul, we will have
the member and also president, Gustavo (PT9BM), transmitting SSTV on
the North American AO-91 satellite which was granted to us on the
weekends of May for use of this purpose, and activating several FM and
SSB satellites with a special ZV9ARSATC call, in addition to activity
with Scouts of the region.

In the north region (Ji-Paraná) Rondônia we have the member President
ARSATC Valdir (PW8PM) who will be giving lectures in municipal schools
and in IFRO, talking about the history of radio amateurism, about ARSATC
and Minister Marcos bridges, and not yet confirmed due to the avail-
ability of the site, a lecture given by PW8PM at the tele-
communications museum in Ji-Parana. Activation of the special ZV8AEB
call sign on several satellites, in honor of Minister Marcos Ponte
(PY0AEB).

And finally the party continues on the weekends with the IO-86 Lapan,
satellite of Indonesia that through a partnership formed with ARSATC,

passes over the brazil connected to the Saturdays enabling contacts
from north to south of Brazil with amateurs, and for celebration to
the 4th Anniversary ARSATC had spent more time on Brazil especially in
May to enable contacts with Africa, thus establishing new records.

My phone for questions and suggestions:

+55 (69) 98478-3801
Jose Valdir de Lima (PW8PM)

[ANS thanks Jose Valdir de Lima, PW8PM, for the above information.]

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First round closes 1 July 2019. If accepted, your content will be
immediately scheduled. Final round closes 1 September 2019. Space
permitting. Pun intended.

If you have questions or need assistance with OpenConf, or have
content that doesn't quite fit and you want to talk it over,
please write grcon(a)gnuradio.org

Topics may include but are not limited to:
+ Space (including ground stations) with special focus awards
  given to all accepted work with Space as a topic
+ Amateur radio
+ Radio astronomy
+ Atmospheric research
+ Theoretical work
+ Practical applications
+ Aviation
+ Biomedical
+ Citizen Science
+ Digital Signal Processing
+ Education
+ Radio Interface
+ Machine Learning
+ Cognitive Radio
+ Transportation
+ Wireless security

[ANS thanks GRCon19 GNU Radio Conference 2019 for the above information]

Changes to AMSAT-NA TLE Distribution for May 9, 2019

The following amateur satellites have decayed and have been removed
from the AMSAT-NA TLE distribution:
PHOENIX - CAT ID 42706 (reentered 05-08-2019).
BIRD-J - CAT ID 42820 (reentered 05-03-2019).
BIRD-B - CAT ID 42823 (reentered 05-06-2019)

[ANS thanks Ray Hoad, WA5QGD, AMSAT Orbital Elements Manager for the
above information.]

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AMSAT relies on the support of our members and the amateur radio community to Keep Amateur Radio in Space.

How can you help?

* Join AMSAT
 Both you and AMSAT will benefit when you join. You get the AMSAT Journal bimonthly and support from AMSAT Ambassadors. Member dues and donations provide AMSAT's primary support.
 Join today at
 https://www.amsat.org/product-category/amsat-membership/

* Become a Life Member
 Becoming a Life Member has never been easier. Now you can become a Life Member with 12 monthly payments of $74 through our online store.
 See https://www.amsat.org/product/lifetime-membership/ for details.

* Donate to AMSAT
 Make a one time or recurring donation to AMSAT today. Even as little as one dollar a month can make a difference!
 Donate today at https://www.amsat.org/donate/

* Purchase AMSAT gear on our Zazzle storefront.
 AMSAT receives 25% of the price of each sale on AMSAT logo merchandise from our Zazzle storefront located at
 https://www.zazzle.com/amsat_gear

* Volunteer for AMSAT
 AMSAT relies on volunteers for nearly all of our activities. If you have an idea for how to help, please let us know, Details on volunteering can be found at
 https://www.amsat.org/volunteer-for-amsat/

[ANS thanks the AMSAT office for the above information.]

Upcoming Satellite Operations

+ FN13/FN14 Gridline – May 11-12, 2019
Michael, K2MTS will be in FN13/14 May 11-12, 2019, operating holiday style. Keep an eye on Michael's Twitter feed https://twitter.com/k2mts for specific pass announcements.

+ Pennsylvania (FN00) – May 13-15, 2019
Tanner, W9TWJ, will be back in FN00 May 13th-15th, if anyone still needs it. Possible he will also do the 15th in EN90 again. FM evening passes. Will look into FN01 to see if it's possible. Watch Tanner's Twitter feed for pass details https://twitter.com/twjones85.

+ NE SD WY CO TX Roadtrip (DN81, DN83, DN74, DN71, DM77, DM95, DM85) – May 18-28, 2019
Clayton, W5PFG is hitting the road and bringing his AMSAT gear with him.

May 18 DN91 (NE)
May 19-23 DN83 (SD)
May 23-24 DN74 (WY)
May 24-26 DN71 (WY)
May 26-27 DM77 (CO)
May 27-28 DM95/DM85 (TX).

All FM/SSB satellites, holiday-style. Open to schedules with EU.

Watch Twitter feed for more updates:
https://twitter.com/w5pfg

+ Pennsylvania (FN11,FN21) – May 19, 2019
Steve, NS3L, will activate the FN11/FN21 gridline mid-morning to early afternoon of May 5th. In addition, he might go to FN12 afterward. FM & SSB Linear birds. Note, fair weather trip only. If heavy rain is forecast, he might postpone & reschedule. During the trip, Steve will be beaconing on APRS NS3L-9. See Steve's Twitter feed for further updates https://twitter.com/NS3L

+ Texas (EM13, EM22, EM23) – May 19-21, 2019
Ryan, AI6DO, has an upcoming business trip for fried pies and a satellite rove: Planning EM13 5/20 & 5/21, EM22/23 grid line 0000-0300 5/20 & 5/22 UTC (5/19 & 5/21 local). Probably FM & APRS only. Updates via Twitter https://twitter.com/AI6DO

+ Point Pelee National Park, Canada (EN81, EN82) – May 25, 2019
KM4LAO, Ruth, will head north of the border to activate Point Pelee National Park in Ontario EN81, Saturday, May 25th. Ruth may also do a pass or two from EN82 as time allows. Plan is for FM and linear satellite passes, as well at QRP HF. Call sign for this activation and subsequent LoTW upload will be KM4LAO/VE3. This will also be a CNPOTA activation, so please upload your log to the CNPOTA website https://cnpota.ca/. Further announcements will be posted on Ruth's Twitter feed https://twitter.com/KM4Ruth as we get closer to the activation date.

+ Memorial Day Weekend on the Queen Mary – May 25-27, 2019
Satellite operating will make a return to the RMS Queen Mary during the upcoming Memorial Day weekend (25-27 May 2019), as part of the "Memorial Day Salute to Service" by the Queen Mary. W6RO will be on the satellites, as well as the HF bands, during these 3 days.

The Queen Mary will be honoring those who have served in the armed forces, and in particular the Queen Mary's use as a troopship during World War II. The Queen Mary, along with other cruise ships, were pressed into service to ferry Allied soldiers around the world. Along with the other activities planned on the ship, some of which are already listed on the Queen Mary's web site at:
https://www.queenmary.com/calendar-of-events/memorial-day/home/

+ Pacific Northwest (CN85, CN83/CN84, CN76/CN86) – May 31 to June 2, 2019
Casey, KI7UNJ, will be on in CN83/84 Friday, May 31st, CN85 Saturday, June 1st, and CN76/86 Sunday, June 2nd. Pass list to come in next few weeks.

+ EM57/EM67 Line – June 4, 2019
Michael, N4DCW, will be at the EM57/67 line on June 4, 2019. FM only. Specific pass times to be posted to Michael's Twitter feed and AMSAT-BB as the day gets closer. https://twitter.com/MWimages

+ #HomewardBoundRove (DN13, DN14, DN21, DN22, DN23) – June 14-18,2019
Casey, KI7UNJ, will be hitting a few grids on his way home. Look for DN13/DN14 line on June 14th, DN21/DN22 line June 15th, DN22 June 17th, and DN23 June 18th. FM only. Pass times expected between 1700-2000UTC. Specific passes to be posted on Casey's Twitter feed:
https://twitter.com/KI7UNJ

+ #JosephOrBustRove (DN04, DN05, DN15) – June 28-30, 2019
Casey, KI7UNJ, will be wandering around Eastern Oregon and decided to do a little grid activating. Look for Casey on FM passes in DN04 mid-Friday, June 28th, in DN15 Friday night to Saturday evening, and DN05

Sunday morning. Specific passes to be posted on Casey’s Twitter feed https://twitter.com/KI7UNJ

+ Iceland (HP95 IP15 IP25 IP03 HP03) – July 13-19, 2019
Adam, K0FFY, is taking his family (and his radios) to Iceland. Tentative schedule is HP95 July 13, IP13 and IP15 July 14-15, IP25 July 16, IP03 or HP93 July 17-18, and HP94 July 19. There’s a lot to see, so passes will be best effort and announced on Twitter shortly prior. https://twitter.com/K0FFY_Radio

Please submit any additions or corrections to ke4al (at) amsat.org

[ANS Thanks Robert Bankston, KE4AL, for the above information.]

Satellite Shorts from All Over

+ Four AMSAT CubeSat Simulators are ready for "launch" at Hamvention. See them at the AMSAT Education table at the AMSAT booth next week! https://twitter.com/alanbjohnston/status/1126955948755554304

The CubeSat Simulator runs on a digital transceiver board for the Raspberry Pi designed by Jonathan Brandenburg. The Villanova CubeSat Club has assembled six Digital Transceiver boards for the Raspberry Pi and they will be available for a donation at the AMSAT Booth at Hamvention. Designs are also available on Github at https://github.com/BrandenburgTech/DigitalTxRxRPi/tree/master/kicad

[ANS thanks Alan Johnston, KU2Y, AMSAT Vice President for Educational Relations for the above information.]

+ The weekly schedule for PO-101's FM repeater is generally posted after ANS has been published each week. Check @Diwata2PH on Twitter for schedule updates. https://twitter.com/Diwata2PH

[ANS thanks PHL-Microsat for the above information.]

+ Social media users are invited to register to attend the next SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket launch, carrying nearly two dozen satellites to space from historic Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Registration opens May 6 and closes at 12 p.m. EDT on May 16.

Full NASA press release posted at:
https://www.nasa.gov/social/spacex-falcon-heavy-launch

Two amateur radio satellites are known to be manifest on this mission: PSAT-2 and BRICSAT-2

See http://aprs.org/psat2.html and http://aprs.org/bricsat-2.html for further information

[ANS thanks NASA for the above information.]

+ ESA's 2019 Space Debris Environment Report is now online, providing the latest facts and figures on the space junk surrounding our planet. The report includes recommendations on the policy and regulatory frameworks for space activities, the safety of space operations, rules of engagement for international cooperation, capacity-building and awareness, and scientific and technical research and development.

Read the entire document at: https://tinyurl.com/ANS-132-ESA

[ANS thanks ESA for the above information.]

+ The Super VHF Conference 2019 Proceedings CD is now available to be ordered at:
http://newsvhf.com/SuperconfCD2019.html

[ANS Thanks W1GHZ via the Microwave List for the above information]

+ The Vintage News features story on LES-1 resuming transmissions after 46 years.
https://www.thevintagenews.com/2019/05/09/us-satellite/

[ANS thanks The Vintage News for the above information.]

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In addition to regular membership, AMSAT offers membership in the President's Club. Members of the President's Club, as sustaining donors to AMSAT Project Funds, will be eligible to receive additional benefits. Application forms are available from the AMSAT office.

Primary and secondary school students are eligible for membership at one-half the standard yearly rate. Post-secondary school students enrolled in at least half time status shall be eligible for the student rate for a maximum of six post-secondary years in this status.

Contact Martha at the AMSAT office for additional student membership information.

73,

This week's ANS Editor,

Paul Stoetzer, N8HM
n8hm at amsat dot org